

Appl. No. : 09/776,383
Filed : 02/02/2001

REMARKS

Claims 4, 7, and 12-27 are pending in this application. Claims 4 and 7 have been amended. Claims 8-11 have been cancelled. New claims 12-27 have been added. Support for the amendments and new claims is found in the specification and claims as filed.

Claim Objections

Claims 4 and 7-11 are objected to because, in describing the bridged silane component, component (b), the structural variable R^4_q where "q" denotes the number of such groups is, instead, depicted as R_{4q} . Claim 4 has been amended to correct the formula. Claim 7 has been amended and no longer recites the formula. Claims 8-11 have been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(a)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kurosawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,410,151). Although Applicants do not agree with the propriety of the rejection, in the interest of expediting prosecution Claims 7-11 have been cancelled without prejudice and may be pursued in a continuation application. The rejection is therefore moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowability with respect to Claim 4 pending correction of the formula as discussed in the claim objections. Claim 7 has been amended to depend from Claim 4. New Claims 12-16 depend from Claim 4. Claims 17-26 include each of the limitations of Claim 4.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns that might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 4/25/03

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